



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

JERRY E. ABRAMSON
MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I am pleased to present my third budget plan for Louisville Metro Government.

Our revenue growth is expected to be modest in 2005-2006 – but our goals for government and our vision for the community are ambitious.

With this budget, we build squarely on the foundation we established over the past two years by focusing on:

- Improving public safety, from police to EMS to our new MetroSafe emergency communications and operations system;
- Providing basic services and continuing infrastructure repairs through our Foundation for the Future bond issue;
- Growing jobs and fostering economic development;
- Strengthening neighborhoods and families;
- Supporting education through our libraries, grants and other programs;
- Building on the high quality of life we enjoy, from attractions downtown to parks and recreation;
- And, finally, continuing to improve our efficiency, effectiveness, responsiveness and accountability as a government.

Let me highlight how we will move our community forward in several key areas in 2005-2006.

Our new consolidated EMS operation will add paramedics and EMTs and new and refurbished ambulances this year. The life-saving goal is faster response and improved care.

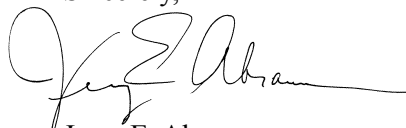
MetroSafe will bring together emergency dispatchers in its Phase 1 headquarters on Barret Avenue this fall – linking all of our community's emergency responders for the first time.

Our economic development priorities include support for our fastest growing local companies through the Mayor's High Impact program and help for young life-science companies through Metacyte.

And we are thinking big when it comes to parks and other attractions that serve as our community's crossroads: This budget dedicates \$1 million to support \$20 million in private funds being raised for our exciting new City of Parks initiative. It aims to add more than 2,000 acres of parkland for our residents, children and grandchildren to enjoy.

The result of our efforts will be a city that we all can be proud to call home today – and a community that sets a bold course for its future.

Sincerely,



Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor